

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 07129 171148Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EB-08 ISO-00 /031 W
-----020343 171157Z /14

P R 171054Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY
INFO USDOC WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 5658
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 7129

ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BTRA, SY
SUBJECT: EDP SEMINAR MISSION

REF: TUNIS 7342; TUNIS 8127

1. BROCHURES IN FRENCH POSE A PROBLEM. IT APPEARS THAT MOST EDP TECHNICAL PERSONNEL IN SYRIA HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN ENGLISH, RATHER THAN FRENCH. IN SYRIA, ENGLISH LONG AGO REPLACED FRENCH AS SECOND LANGUAGE, ESPECIALLY FOR PERSONNEL WITH OVERSEAS TECHNICAL TRAINING. WE ARE NOT QUITE CERTAIN WHY USDOC DID NOT PROVIDE BROCHURES IN ENGLISH, SINCE SEMINAR/MISSION WAS ORGANIZED IN THE STATES. OF COURSE, WE WOULD ACCEPT FRENCH BROCHURES, BUT SYRIAN OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US THEY PREFER ENGLISH. WILL TECHNICAL PAPERS ALL BE IN BOTH LANGUAGES? WILL ANY TECHNICAL PAPERS BE IN ARABIC TRANSLATION?

2. REFTEL (A) SAYS ENGLISH COPIES OF TECHNICAL PAPERS WILL BE SENT TO DAMASCUS FOR TRANSLATION INTO ARABIC. OUR OPINION WAS NEVER ASKED OF THIS TRANSLATION SERVICE.
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NO PAPERS HAVE ARRIVED HERE. WITH AL-ADHA HOLIDAY BEGINNING NOVEMBER 20, AND NO SYRIAN TRANSLATION SERVICES AVAILABLE UNTIL NOV. 26, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TRANSLATE INTO ARABIC A NUMBER OF HIGHLY TECHNICAL EDP SEMINAR PAPERS BEFORE MISSION ARRIVAL DEC. 11. AGAIN, WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THIS SERVICE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN PERFORMED IN WASHINGTON, SINCE IT WOULD BENEFIT

ALL STOPS ON SEMINAR MISSION ITINERARY.

3. PLEASE INFORM ADVANCE OFFICER LAEMMERZAHN EMBASSY
CAR WILL MEET HIM AT DAMASCUS AIRPORT 11/23. WILL
LAEMMERZAHN BE BRINGING WITH HIM TO DAMASCUS COPIES OF
BROCHURES (WE NEED 150 AT LEAST) AND TECHNICAL PAPERS?
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 17-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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